

Boston, October 11th

Dear Brother Stanton,

I received your ~~letter~~ circular several days since and laid it before our Board, and would now take my first leisure moment to tell you that we very much regret it is not in our power to assist the National Society. We thought your circular the very thing. It makes a most powerful appeal to the heart of every Abolitionist & we trust it will be responded to by ^{our State} efforts from every man and woman out of ~~the State~~, & by as many in it as can do so and at the same time support Garrison & the Liberator. For ourselves, we cannot at present do any thing tell me one sure that there stand upon a stable foundation. I am now writing an entirely unofficial letter, and as I have the pleasure of knowing you quite intimately, I trust you will not think it ~~admiss~~ if I express my sentiments with great freedom. The plain truth is, you in New York have made it impossible for us to aid you. You have materially lessened the ability of every true hearted Abolitionist in the State to do this, for one & all we feel that "tide what tide" Garrison must be supported. The Boston Female A. S. Society, at least, will do as Garrison himself did in the first of his career live upon bread & water before they will desert him. At the annual meeting of our State Society it is probable that though as to ~~Society~~ retaining undiminished confidence in the Liberator they will yet that the most captious may ^{find} ~~take no~~ offence, with draw, as a Society their aid. It is therefore important ~~is~~ for us to be providing for this emergency, & to do this we cannot tell how much of our funds will be required. Now had our brethren in New York stood by us (& by us I mean the Liberator & Garrison, for we claim the honour of being identified with them) then moral influence would have superseded the necessity of what would have been much less valuable, namely our money. Half a column in the Emancipator of the right kind would have been worth to us more than a hundred dollars ever could have been

If you will leave us to fight our battles with the enemy
unaided, you must not wonder if we seek to strengthen
our own lands instead of strengthening yours. For the conduct
of the Executive Committee at New York we cannot account.
What can Mr Wright mean ^{in the last Higham meeting} by calling the
present controversy, a Sectionarian affair. I cannot recollect
a word in the Appeal No 1 (I mark you had that not been
met as it was, the appellants designed no other move), that
can be at all construed as having any Sectionarian tendency
whatever. There is nothing Sectionarian about it. In our Society
Unitarians, Baptists, Calvinists & Quakers go together in one
solid phalanx. How ~~can~~ the calling of land names in ^{the} ~~holding~~
particular opinions respecting the giving of notices can be
called Sectionarianism I know not, or how opposing people for
these things. - Our Annual meeting was held this afternoon
and was one of uncommon influence. Our Annual Report in
which "Clerical Abolition" was spoken of as no Abolition at all
was received adopted unanimously by the whole Society appearing
the one heart & one mind. Remember when I speak of Clerical
Abolition, I mean that ~~terribly~~ ^{terribly} so called, to such
Clerical Abolition as Bro Phelps' we give a most joyful welcome.
But ^{from} ~~to~~ those Clerical Abolitionists who term the pro slavery
ministry of Boston "our brethren" & the Abolitionists "our opponents"
we pray to be delivered. We begin to see the inconsistency
of denouncing Southern ministers as "men stealers" & "sons
of murderers" and at the same time upholding Northern
ministers in the justification of this paid man stealing
& soul murder. Abolition principles can never triumph till
Abolitionists indignantly refuse to sit under the preaching
of him who defends as well as he who practices slave
holding, and this is the ground that ~~these~~ ^{most} Abolitionists
won't take, but it will not be those of the Fitch & Hays
School. - It has been to us a source of regret that it
was not in your power to act as an ~~expert~~ ^{expert} lecturer in
Mass. Our Society felt very desirous that you should
do so & under the influence of this hope have exerted
themselves very successfully to procure funds and are much
disappointed that you cannot labour amongst us.

May I trouble you so far as to ask that you will
call upon Mrs Follen & ask her for the Blank book
that I am preparing for the Fair and transmit it to
me the first safe opportunity. I am ashamed to send

any more messages to Nassau St. about this book, but
I want it extremely & have no friends in N. Y. now
Miss Lapham is absent to whom to apply. Pray write
something in it yourself & ask Professor Wright to do so
even if it be but a few lines.

Our friends Wendell Phillips & Clara Greene are to be
married to-morrow. Her health is much improved.
Mr Phelps lectured at Weymouth in Mr Perkins'
pulpit last Sunday evening & gave great
satisfaction. The people there stood strong.

The Misses Grimké are still in Worcester County &
find great acceptance, the Pastoral letter with
him. Mr Garrison is going to lecture in Boston
next Monday. As you know the localities I thought
perhaps all this might interest you.

Caroline deserves her regards, & believe me with
gratitude for your unwearying exertions in the
cause

Yours friend very sincerely

Anne W. Weston.

Ms. A. 9.2.16.85

Letter of 24.11.17 to
to Mr. Standen